

PLAYERS AT THE RICHMOND THEATRES THIS WEEK

MAY MANNERING,
at the Academy.AL. H. WILSON,
at the Academy.BEN GRUNNELL,
at Bijou.LULU MCCONNELL,
at Bijou.

AT THE THEATRES

PLAYBILLS FOR THE WEEK.

At the Academy.

Tuesday, Mary Mannering, in "Glorious Betsy."

Wednesday, matinee and night, Al H. Wilson, in "Metz in the Alps."
Friday and Saturday, and Saturday matinee, "The Lion and the Mouse."

At the Bijou.

All the week, with the usual matinee, "Piff, Paff, Pouff."

At Idlewood.

Kearns Animal Show and Skating Rink, vaudeville all the week, with usual matinees.

BY BRUCE CHESTERMAN.

When Miss Mary Mannering played "Janice Meredith" here some few seasons ago, she proved herself a star of no small magnitude, and the enthusiastic reception accorded her in that play must have been very gratifying, and have caused her to mentally jot down Richmond as one of the many towns which she had taken by storm.

Miss Mannering, when she comes to the Academy next Tuesday in "Glorious Betsy," a play that has certainly had a glorious record, will no doubt find that her admirers have not lessened either in number or in ardor.

"Glorious Betsy" is from the pen of Rida Johnson Young, an authoress who has gained considerable reputation. The play has to do with the love story of Elizabeth Patterson, of Baltimore, and the incidents revolve around her

courtship with Jerome Bonaparte, the young brother of the Emperor, Napoleon. The scene of the first act is at the Old Sweet Springs of Virginia. It is here that Jerome Bonaparte, who is traveling incognito, meets Betsy, and her charms so attract him that he straightway falls in love with her, which for reasons of state, proves later a very injudicious thing for him to do, if, indeed, such an act in itself is not injudicious. He does not divulge his identity, however, and in order to be near her, engages himself as her French tutor.

The envoys of Napoleon, while the little love affair has been progressing at the Old Sweet, have been diligently searching for the brother, armed with instructions that he return to his own country to fulfill his obligations there. They at last discover his hiding place, and make him acquainted with the wish of Napoleon, but Jerome refuses to return until his term as tutor has been completed.

The scene changes to the home of Betsy, at which a fete is to be given in honor of young Bonaparte. The latter is still posing as the tutor, and Betsy has shown unmistakable signs that she is in love with him, much to the annoyance of her father. The delayed appearance of young Bonaparte causes much anxiety, and while the guests are awaiting his arrival, news is received that Napoleon has been proclaimed Emperor, and that he demands the immediate return of his brother Jerome. Betsy, who has taken occa-

OLIVER,
at the Academy.

sion to absent herself during all this excitement, is found by her father in the arms of the tutor, and the parent is indignant, as well as shocked, at the discovery. The climax is reached in this act when the identity of the tutor is made known.

The third act shows the frigate La Sigole anchored off the coast of France. On board of the vessel are Betsy and Mr. Patterson and Jerome, the trio awaiting the return of messengers who have been dispatched to Napoleon, asking his consent to Jerome's marriage. The Emperor replies that Jerome shall come before him at once, and what is more significant, alone. Jerome is indignant at this command, but he is persuaded to go ashore and appear before his brother.

When he has left the vessel Napoleon himself comes aboard the frigate, and begs that Betsy will refuse to marry his brother. He declares that there are imperative reasons that another alliance should be made, and that these affect the welfare of France.

He urges upon Betsy that, as an American girl, she should remember the debt her country owes France—the debt of Lafayette—and that she should make this sacrifice; the French women had given up their lovers, husbands and fathers to the call of America; now she was asked to renounce her lover for the welfare of France. This plea proves too strong for Betsy to resist.

The final act again carries the audience to Betsy's home. Few play-wrights have the temerity to allow an unhappy ending to their plays, and so in the last scene the lovers are made happy again, Jerome having returned and convinced Betsy that the sacrifice Napoleon had asked was not for the good of France, but to gratify his own personal ambition.

"Metz in the Alps."

Al. H. Wilson, who has been styled "the golden-voiced comedian," comes to the Academy Wednesday matinee and evening. In Sidney R. Ellis's German dialect comedy, "Metz in the Alps." The piece, of course, affords Mr. Wilson ample opportunity to use his rich voice, some of the numbers he will sing being "Forest Flower of All," "Wilson's Lullaby," "Songs of Old Fatherland," "Sittzebank," and "Switzer Le Boy."

The story is said to be strong in its interest, and to contain some thrilling scenes. Those who are familiar with Mr. Wilson's work must know that there will be no lack of the comedy element, for the actor is essentially a comedian. A thrilling rescue from death in the snow-clad Alps, as made by Metz, assisted by monks and St. Bernard dogs, constitutes one of the scenes, and at least gives the idea that the play does not belong to that class known as "quiet."

The production will no doubt be splendidly mounted, as are all in which Mr. Wilson appears, and a capable company may be expected to support the singing comedian.

"Piff, Paff, Pouff."

"Piff, Paff, Pouff," which has been styled an "effervescent musical cocktail," will be on view at the Bijou this week. The original production, which long runs in New York, Chicago, and Boston, and the company which B. C. Whitney is now sending out is said to be fully capable of giving a most clever performance of this piece.

Ben Grinnell and Miss Lulu McConnell head the company. The former, for two seasons was featured at the New York Hippodrome, and Miss McConnell has played the role of "Cora Melon" for the past two seasons, singing the famous "Dolly Dimple" song.

In the supporting company of principals are: Jeanette Patterson, of the "Silver Slipper" company; Olive Woolford, with the "Buff, Paff, Pouff" company last season in the same role played by her in the present company, prior to which she was a member of such companies as the "Babes of Boyland," "Isle of Spice," "The Show Girl," and "The Wizard of Oz." Frank Milton, the "Ruben Impersonator," of Belmont, formerly principal with "In Morocco Bound," "The Defender," and "The Show Girl," and with Lulu Glaser in "Dolly Dimple." Lela Bloodgood, a character actress, who has played in a number of Broadway productions; Fannie Ide, Grant Simpson, George J. Jackson, Jack Edwards and Ella Hitch. The company also includes the American Pony Ballet, a most clever octet of dancers.

Edward Pele's Play.

It is a genuine pleasure to witness such a play as "The Prince Chap," which was seen at the Academy last week, the production being the last of the old year and the first of the new. It should also have afforded a certain degree of satisfaction to the

audience to know that this play was the work of a Richmond man, or at least of one who, until recent years, made his home in this city.

It is almost a tradition, however, among the management of Richmond play-houses, that it is the best policy not to make prominent the connection of any local man or woman with any production that is to be given in this city. Their idea in taking this attitude is no doubt founded upon the assumption that "home products," as far as the theatre is concerned, are not estimated very highly by the public. They have found by experience, that it does not tend to increase the box office receipts to announce that a certain actor is a Richmond man, or that this or that actress is a Virginia girl.

It seems rather a pity that Mr. Cyril Scott, the splendid young actor, who portrayed the "Prince Chap," omitted what would have been a most graceful act on his part, when he made his curtain speech; that is, to have made some reference to the authorship of the play, for it seems barely possible that he could have been unaware of the fact

that he was before an audience that numbered among it many of the friends and acquaintances of the playwright. The success of this drama is due more to the play than to the players, and Mr. Scott owes his thanks to his achievement in this production to Mr. Edward Pele, who in William Peyton gave him a role which, in the parlance of the stage, would "play itself."

Charles Klein's powerful drama, "The Lion and the Mouse," will be presented at the Academy Friday and Saturday, with a matinee the latter day. The play was seen here last season, and therefore is familiar to many theatre-goers in this city.

A notable cast will appear in the production to be seen here this week. It numbers among its members Marie Shotwell, Oliver Doud Byron, Herbert Mackenzie, Mabel Mortimer, P. S. Barrett, Edith Schayne, Christine Blessing, Edith Curry and Fred Strong.

AT THE WILD ANIMAL SHOW



FRANK BREAKWATER AND TWO OF SULTANA'S BABIES AT FERARI'S

At the special request of hundreds of visitors to the Jungle, Colonel Ferrari has made arrangements with the London Hippodrome management to allow Captain Winston and his group of sealions to remain in Richmond one week longer. This feature attraction is booked for a six months' exhibition at the Hippodrome, and was to be there for the first week in February. Colonel Ferrari cabled Friday requesting an extension of one week.

The prize-winners in the contest for naming the baby lions will be announced this week. The little cubs have been separated from their mother and are now under the care of Frank Breakwater, a nephew of Colonel Ferrari, who has had much experience in handling young animals, although only a youngster himself.

Six acts, every one of which Colonel Ferrari promises will be absolutely the best of its kind, will be seen in the big arena all this week, with two performances daily.

The Majestic Theatre

Kahn Amusement Company

Will Present for Your Approval

THE NEW KIND OF VAUDEVILLE

—And—

THE WORLD IN MOTION,

—Beginning—

Monday Matinee, January 6th, 1908

Feature No. 1—TONY BAKER, A REAL COMEDIAN IN CORK.

Feature No. 2—AL. WHITE'S FOUR DANCING BELLS.

Feature No. 3—THE WORLD IN MOTION.

A Quality Show—high character and grade of entertainment, absolutely free from anything objectionable or offensive, and all to be of such a character that gentlemen can take their wives, sisters and daughters to see them without any fear of the slightest offense.

Matinees—2:15 and 3:30. Evenings—7:15, 8:15 and 9:15.

Saturday Matinees—2:15, 3:15 and 4:15.

Saturday Evenings—7:15, 8:15, 9:15 and 10:15.

Admission to the Best Seats, 10c. No Seats Reserved.

NOTE.—This is not the ordinary moving picture show. It is a QUALITY SHOW OF VAUDEVILLE.

Amusements.

Amusements.

Academy, Tuesday, January 7th.

Mary Mannering

IN THE NEW AMERICAN PLAY

"GLORIOUS BETSY"

By RIDA JOHNSON YOUNG, Author of "Brown of Harvard."
Direction SAM S. & LEE SHUBERT (Inc).
By Arrangement with Jas. K. Hackett, North American Amusement Company, Proprietors.

A Perfect Company. A Delightful Comedy

Carriages May Be Ordered for 10:45 P. M.

Prices: \$2.00, \$1.50, \$1.00, 75c and 50c.

Academy, Wednesday, January 8th.

MATINEE AND NIGHT.
SIDNEY R. ELLIS Presents
The Singing Ambassador of German Dialect.GOLDEN
VOICED AL. H.

"METZ" WILSON

In His Latest Play, the New

METZ IN THE ALPS

Hear Wilson's Glorious Song Success.

"FAIREST FLOWER OF ALL."

And the Delightful "Wilson's Lullaby," "Songs of Old Fatherland,"
"From the Beginning Until Now," "Switzer Le Boy,"
and "The Sittzebank."

PRICES: Matinee, 25c to \$1. Night, 25c to \$1.50.

Academy, Friday and Saturday,

MATINEE SATURDAY.

RETURN TO RICHMOND OF THE GREATEST SUCCESS OF MOD-ERN TIMES.

HENRY B. HARRIS PRESENTS

THE LION and
THE MOUSE

By CHARLES KLEIN.

THE RECORD: Two Years in New York; Six Months in Chicago; Four Months in Boston.

A CAST OF DISTINGUISHED PLAYERS.

BIJOU THEATRE--All Week
USUAL MATINEES

A \$1.50 ATTRACTION AT BIJOU PRICES

B. C. Whitney Presents the Effervescent Musical Cocktail

Piff!

With Ben Grinnell
and Lulu McConnellBy Stange,
Jerome and
Schwartz

Paff!

Staged
by
Gus SchilkeChorus of Upwards of 50,
Including the Original
American Pony Ballet.

Pouf!

286--Times at the New York Casino--286

3 Months--In Chicago--3 Months.

7 Weeks--In Boston--7 Weeks.

First Time in Richmond

ENGAGEMENT EXTRAORDINARY OF CAPTAIN WINSTON AND HIS WONDERFUL SEA LIONS AT

THE FERARI JUNGLE

AND TRAINED WILD ANIMAL ARENA

By special arrangement with the London Hippodrome management this remarkable group of animal actors will remain one week longer.

SIX BIG ACTS NEXT WEEK!

NEW AND STARTLING FEATURES

NEVER AN IDLE MOMENT--ALWAYS SOMETHING DOING.

25c and 10c, 2:30 and 8:30 P. M.

HEAR THE FAMOUS

Whitney Brothers

AMERICA'S GREATEST MALE QUARTETTE.

JEFFERSON HOTEL AUDITORIUM, Thursday, Jan. 9, 8:30 P. M.

Reserved Seat Tickets, 50 and 75 Cents, at The Cable Company, 213 East Broad St.



William F.

Alvin M.

Edwin M.

Yale B.

Whitney Brothers.

The famous Whitney brothers, pronounced by competent musical critics the best male quartet in America, will give one of their splendid concerts in the Jefferson Hotel Auditorium Thursday, January 9th, at 8:30 P. M.

This will be the fifth of the Radcliffe series of concerts and entertainments, which seem to be growing in popular favor with each number. There are perhaps two good reasons why the attendance for this series has been steadily increasing. First, the programs, while of a high order, are also

desired to entertain; and, secondly, the price of a good seat is always kept within reach of the average pocket-book.

The Whitney brothers, who made a most favorable impression when they appeared in Richmond last winter on the Y. M. C. A. course, will present a program next Thursday night which has never been surpassed by any similar organization that has sung in this city.

The talented reader and impersonator of the company, Edwin Whitney, given some numbers that are truly delightful.